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Dated: February 9, 2006

Signature:

Patricia Tedesco
(Patricia Tedesco)

Docket No.: SION-P01-001
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Miller et al.

Confirmation No.: 9060

Application No.: 10/821812

Art Unit: 2883

Filed: April 8, 2004

Examiner: El-Shammaa, Mary A.

For: EXPLOSIVES DETECTION USING
DIFFERENTIAL ION MOBILITY
SPECTROMETRY

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 30, 2005, requiring Applicants to elect one of the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-17 and 28-32, drawn to a method using differential mobility spectrometer, classified in class 250, subclass 282; and

Group II: Claims 18-27, drawn to an apparatus for fast characterization of an explosives-related chemical sample, classified in class 250, subclass 288.

If the Applicants elect Group I, the Examiner further requires that Applicants elect one of the following species:

Species A Claims 1-6, drawn to a method for identifying an analyte with explosive characteristics;

Species B Claims 7-13, drawn to a method for detecting an explosive-related analyte;

Species C Claims 14-17, drawn to a method for detecting a taggant added to an explosive material; and

Species D Claims 28-32, drawn to a method for fast analysis of explosive-related compounds.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Species A of Group I, Claims 1-6, directed to a method for identifying an analyte with explosive characteristics. This election is made without traverse, and without prejudice to prosecute the non-elected claims in related applications. Applicants also reserve the right to file a continuing application or take such other appropriate action as deemed necessary to protect the non-elected inventions.

Applicants were given one month to respond to the Restriction Requirement. Therefore, a two-month extension of time is respectfully requested. A Petition for Extension of Time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently.

Applicants believe no other fees are due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-1945, under Order No. SION-P01-001 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: February 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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